

CLAIMS:

1. A low-pressure mercury vapor discharge lamp comprising a discharge vessel (10),

which discharge vessel (10) encloses a discharge space (18) containing a filling of mercury and an inert gas in a gastight manner,

and said discharge vessel (10) comprising tubular end portions (11; 11'), which each have a longitudinal axis (12; 12'),

electrodes (20; 20') being arranged in the discharge space (18) for generating and maintaining a discharge in the discharge space (18),

and at least an auxiliary amalgam (27) being provided on a carrier (25; 25') in the discharge vessel (10) in the proximity of at least one of the electrodes (20; 20'), characterized in that

at least a part (25A) of the carrier (25; 25') is arranged in a plane transverse to the longitudinal axis (12; 12').

15 2. A low-pressure mercury vapor discharge lamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein a stem (21; 21') in the tubular end portion (11; 11') carries the electrode (20; 20'), and the carrier (25; 25') is provided on a supporting body arranged in the stem (21; 21').

20 3. A low-pressure mercury vapor discharge lamp as claimed in claim 2, wherein the supporting body is formed by an exhaust tube (26) which extends at least partially into the discharge space (18).

25 4. A low-pressure mercury vapor discharge lamp as claimed in claim 3, wherein the carrier (25; 25') is press-fitted onto the end portion of the exhaust tube (26) which is situated in the discharge space (18).

5. A low-pressure mercury vapor discharge lamp as claimed in claim 2, wherein the supporting body is formed by a wire (23, 23').

6. A low-pressure mercury vapor discharge lamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein the carrier (25; 25') is directly press-fitted onto a stem (21, 21') which carries the electrode (20, 20') in the tubular end portion (11, 11').

5 7. A low-pressure mercury vapor discharge lamp as claimed in claim 1 or 2,
wherein
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the carrier (25; 25') is arranged at a side of the electrode (20; 20') facing away from the discharge space (13).

10 8. A low-pressure mercury vapor discharge lamp as claimed in claim 1 or 2,
wherein
the carrier (25; 25') is electrically insulated with respect to the electrode (20; 20').

15 9. A low-pressure mercury vapor discharge lamp as claimed in claim 1 or 2,
wherein
the carrier (25; 25') comprises a further part (25B) which is arranged in a plane parallel to the longitudinal axis (12; 12').

20 10. A low-pressure mercury vapor discharge lamp as claimed in claim 1 or 2,
wherein
a distance d between the carrier (25; 25') and the electrode (20; 20') lies in the range from
 $0.5 < d < 8 \text{ mm}$.

25 11. A low-pressure mercury vapor discharge lamp as claimed in claim 10, wherein
a distance d between the carrier (25; 25') and the electrode (20; 20') lies in the range from
 $1 < d < 3 \text{ mm}$

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